

From: <Mike_E_Ford@blm.gov>
To: "Paul Baker" <paulbaker@utah.gov>
Date: 1/11/2006 11:17:34 AM
Subject: Re: MH-1 Calcite Quarry

Please file
4/04/029

Paul:

In the fall of 2004, we notified ALL of our Notice-level operators that if they wanted to extend their Notice with the BLM, they must request an extension in writing before January 20, 2005. Every single one of our Notice operators requested the extension except Sid, who's secretary apparently failed to show him our letter. He had no idea that he would have to extend his Notice in writing. Because we hadn't received Sid's official request for a Notice extension, we figured that he was abandoning the site and we then requested that the site be reclaimed immediately. Sid called and asked if there was any way he could receive special dispensation from the BLM to extend the Notice for another 2 years, and not have to initiate a new Plan. BLM management felt that it was appropriate to extend the Notice, which would essentially require no further staff work, rather than require a Plan of Operations, which would involve the preparation of an EA and require several months of staff time to complete. Since the operation is already bonded 100% for reclamation, it made no sense not to extend his Notice.

We told Sid of our decision over the phone and did not follow up with a letter confirming our decision. As far as I know, none of our Notice-level operators received a letter from the BLM informing them that their Notice was extended for 2 more years.

As a point of information, we do not currently plan to "warn" the Notice-level operators in the future that their Notices will be expiring. They will "hang by their own petard" and will have to file a Plan if they can't do this simple task without a prompt from the BLM.

I hope this helps..

Michael Ford
Geologist
Salt Lake Field Office

"The future ain't what it used to be" Y. Berra

"Paul Baker"
<paulbaker@utah.gov>
To
<Mike_E_Ford@blm.gov>
01/11/2006 10:22 AM cc
Subject
MH-1 Calcite Quarry

Last May, the BLM sent McFarland and Hullinger a letter requiring them to reclaim the MH-1 calcite quarry. I just talked with Sid Hullinger about it, and he said the BLM had told him the notice could be extended for another 2 years, that the site was grandfathered and didn't require a plan of operations under the extension. He also said he never got anything in writing.

Could you confirm this or let me know your perspective? Thank you.